

**Amendments to the Specification**

- Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, line 3:

-- This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/EP03/50305, filed July 11, 2003, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on January 22, 2004 in French and which claims the benefit of French patent application No. 0209038, filed July 17, 2002. --

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 10 on page 1.

**-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --**

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 30 on page 4.

**-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --**

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 7 on page 6.

**-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --**

- Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending on line 13 on page 6.

**-- DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --**